

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

OMB-01 EB-07 AID-05 SAM-01 SCCT-01 /085 W

----- 082887

R 110935Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3556

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1085

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LY, US, TS, AG

SUBJ: LIBYAN CONCERN OVER U.S. SENATE RESOLUTION OF
SUPPORT FOR TUNISIAN PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA

1. IN CAPACITY ACTING ASST. UNDER SECRETARY, NORTH
AMERICAN DIRECTOR HUSNI SHAABAN CALLED ME TO FORMIN
ON AUGUST 10. SUBJECT, HE EXPLAINED, WAS RECENT SENATE
RESOLUTION (FULL TEXT OF WHICH HE HAD NOT SEEN) IN
SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA OF TUNISIA.

2. MFA ANALYSIS (OR MORE LIKELY LIBYAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON)
OF LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION RAISED THREE BASIC QUESTIONS
WHICH NEEDED CLARIFICATION. FIRST, RESOLUTION SUGGESTED
THAT THERE WAS A THREAT TO THE INTEGRITY AND INDE-
PENDENCE OF TUNISIA. IF SUCH THREAT CAME FROM OUTSIDE
OF ARAB WORLD LARG, AS NEIGHBOR AND BROTHERLY ARAB
COUNTRY, WAS CONCERNED AND WOULD LIKE DETAILS ON
NATURE OF THREAT. SECONDLY, IF THREAT NOT FROM OUTSIDE
ARAB WORLD DID RESOLUTION IMPLY THAT DANGER CAME FROM
TUNISIA'S NEIGHBORS SUCH AS LIBYA OR ALGERIA. WHAT
POSSIBLE REASONS, HE ASKED, COULD BE ADVANCED FOR
SUCH AN IMPLICATION. THIRDLY, MFA WONDERED IF FIRST
TWO SUPPOSITIONS WERE NOT THE CASE WAS PURPOSE OF
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THE SENATE RESOLUTION TO SOW DISSENSION BETWEEN

BROTHERLY ARAB COUNTRIES? LARG, HE CONCLUDED, WOULD
VERY MUCH LIKE TO HAVE CLARIFICATION ON ABOVE POINTS.

3. I RESPONDED THAT I HAD NOT SEEN THE FULL TEXT
OF THE RESOLUTION WHICH WAS EXPRESSION OV VIEW OF
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF U.S. GOVERNMENT BUT WOULD
FORWARD HIS INQUIRIES TO WASHINGTON AND CONVEY BACK
WHATEVER MESSAGE MY GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE. PRESENTATION
WAS MADE IN LOW-KEY ALMOST FRIENDLY FASHION. IN
PASSING, SHAABAN NOTED PRESIDENT FORD IN RECENT
PRESS CONFERENCE HAD CONNECTED LIBYA AND TERRORISM.
HE SAID FOR PRESENT LARG DID NOT PLAN TO TAKE UP THIS
SUBJECT IN THE INTEREST OF PRESERVING OUR CURRENT
"DIALOGUE".

4. WOULD APPRECIATE FULL TEXT OF SENATE RESOLUTION
AND WHATEVER INSTRUCTION DEEMED APPROPRIATE.
CARLE

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NNN

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